

Ministry of
Colleges and
Universities

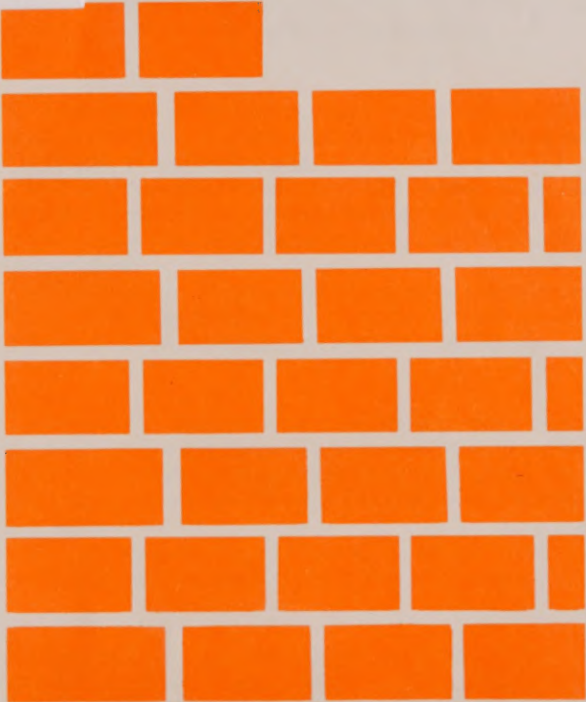
Apprenticeship
Training

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Brick and Stone Mason



Government
Publications



The mason's craft is one of the oldest in the history of the construction industry and is as vital today as ever before. Apprenticeship training in the highly technical brick and stone mason trade is available under a modernized program sponsored by the Industrial Training Branch of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

Qualifications

Although there is no maximum age limit, prospective apprentices must be 16 years or over, should be in good physical condition, be agile, and have a good sense of balance.

They must hold educational qualifications of Grade 8 or better and should be proficient in mathematics and science.

Duties

The experienced brick and stone mason in Ontario is expected to perform a wide range of duties which include building walls, partitions, fireplaces, chimneys, and various structures from brick, stone, or other masonry materials; using the necessary hand instruments to lay out work and establish grades; and employing the proper hand and power tools to cut and dress stone and brick, to plumb structures, and to point mortar joints.

Training

The apprenticeship training program for brick and stone masons covers four periods of 1,400 hours each (equivalent to approximately 3½ years). They receive practical on-the-job training under the supervision of skilled and experienced journeymen/women, and they obtain related instruction at a College of Applied Arts and Technology. The related courses of instruction are compulsory and include an eight-week basic course, a seven-week intermediate course, and a seven-week advanced course. The latter is scheduled near the end of the apprenticeship period.

Training Allowances

When apprentices attend courses, their tuition fees, living allowance, and travel expenses are paid by the Federal Department of Manpower and Immigration and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities under a shared-cost agreement.

Earning While Learning

While training on the job, apprentices earn while they learn. Their wages are based on a percentage of those paid to the journeymen/women in the same trade in the same shop. Thus, apprentices receive 40 percent of the prevailing rate for journeymen/women during the first period of apprenticeship and more in each of the succeeding periods.

At the conclusion of each 1,400 hour period, apprentices must receive the recommendation of their employer before proceeding to the next period of the contract.

Certificates of Apprenticeship

On completion of the four periods, apprentices must write a final examination. A mark of 60 percent will entitle them to a Certificate of Apprenticeship.

Apprentices obtaining a mark of 70 percent or more, will receive an inter-provincial Seal permitting them to practice in their trade in most of Canada's provinces without further examination.

A Certificate of Qualification is issued by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities for this trade on the payment of a \$10 fee. It is not necessary to renew the certificate.

Employment Prospects

The employment outlook for the brick and stone mason is excellent. Once the status of journeyman/woman is attained, individual abilities are usually the controlling factor in advancement to administrative position or ownership of a business.

Employment opportunities exist in restoration work, and in residential, industrial, and commercial construction.

Enquiries

All enquiries concerning apprenticeship should be addressed to the nearest district office listed on the back of this leaflet, or to the Director, Ontario Industrial Training Branch, Ministry of Colleges and Universities, Mowat Block, 900 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2B5.

District Offices
Industrial Training Branch

Barrie 728-1951
Belleville 968-8671
Brantford 756-5197
Brockville 345-0660
Chatham 352-2800
Cornwall 933-6080
Guelph 821-3770
Hamilton 527-9105
Hawkesbury 632-2759
Kenora 468-3128
Kingston 544-5400
Kitchener-Waterloo 884-5460
London 453-7190
North Bay 474-5509
Oshawa 576-0171
Ottawa 731-7100
Owen Sound 376-5790
Pembroke 735-1041
Peterborough 743-4172
St. Catharines 682-4313
Sarnia 542-7751
Sault Ste. Marie 949-3331
Stoney Creek 664-5116
Stratford 273-1520
Sudbury 560-3440
Thunder Bay 475-1605
Timmins 235-3644
Toronto 965-4211
Windsor 254-8654

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Ministry of
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Industrial
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Hon. Harry C. Parrott, DDS, Minister
Dr. J. Gordon Parr, Deputy Minister